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REGULAR TOBAC-**GO TIDINGS**

Letter from Commit eeman I. N Baker of Lisman, Webster County Kentucky.

To the Tobacco growers of the Stemming District:

Some three weeks ago the Exthe five-year plan of pooling for free of charge, we only paid him tion. discussion, and four of the five \$1 per hogshead for selling the committeemen for Hopkins coun- 1908 crop and 1909 crops. ty, voting "no." In a short time I wish to make it clear about four of the committee-Mr. the 1907 crop. In writing from Campbell being absent-met at memory and trying to condense tobacco.

Right here I believe appropriate a few historical facts concerning the Stemming District: In 1906 we pooled about 11,000, 000 pounds of tobacco, if I remember right. The buyers would not buy a pound of it Your committee had no money to handle that tobacco with. Our then general manager was not able to back us up by providing us with the money neccessary to handle and prize that crop, there fore we had to contract with warehouse men to prize the pooled tobacco, paying for the prizing \$1.85 per hundred. The banks in the several counties furnished the money to handle that crop, and, in some of the counties, paid the pooler sixty per cent. on warehouse receipts.

The following year 1907, we

pooled the most of the crop. dle it. It looked as though we tion of 24,240. went to him and asked him what coming 1906 there were in effect several gain.

Mr. Elliot at the head of our As- sociation. the last of that crop has been to be a member of this Associa-

sold and the warehouse receipts will soon be paid. And a dividend will soon be distributed on the 1909 crop. We have sold the four crops for bigger average than any other Association handling the English type of tobacco. The four crops have netted, or will net members when all the money is distributed in the next few weeks, a little over \$7.25 per hundred average, after paying all expenses. Whereas

Madisonville, and from the re- the history of several years of ports of different committeeman big transactions, I may appear a three of the four voted to reccom- little obscure unless all the statemend the one-year plan. I voted ments are considered together. 'no." It is true I knew when I Our contract with Mr. Elliot was cast that vote at Madisonville that he was to furnish the facthat some members in Webster tories for, and all the money county would sign the five-year necessary for handling ond priz pool. I am for one year, or ing, the 1907 crop, and he guarfive years, or for life. When anteed the cost of handling that I cannot pool I will stop raising crop should not exceed \$1.50 per hundred, whereas we had been paying \$1.85 per hundred. Elliot went to England in September of 1907. The panic was on. He was busy selling the 1906 tobacco, which was of course in the hogshead. The latter part of October the com mittee sold the 1907 crop. have carelessly started in the foregoing Mr. Elliott sold that Wynne was supposed to have crop. The fact is, it was the 1907 crop.

tled him on the agreed comission he had been poisoned by enemies of \$2 per hogshead for the 1907 of the company for working crop with the stipulation he was to charge nothing for selling the 1906 crop. If your Committee had sent your tobacco to Liver-Your committee went to the pool to commission merchants. bankers and asked them if they they would have charged eight could carry us over another \$8.00 dollars per hogshead comyear. They said they would be mission. To illustrate-Mr. Elli- many friends who so tenderly unable to furnish a dollar to ott sold on his last trip to Enghandle the 1907 crop with. The land 3,405 hogshead of tobacco. bankers said money was all tied Had this tobacco been sold by up in the 1906 crop and the pan- Liverpool commission houses the ic of 1907 was on. The buyers Association would have been knew our condition as well as paid \$27,240. On the bas s of we did, and would not talk about our settlement with Elliot here buying, said they could not han- is a clear saving to the Associa-

were right up against it. In I make these statements becasting around to see what to do, cause the enemies of the Associathe committee thought of Mr. tion make a great bugaboo William Elliot. He had handled about Mr. Elliott's commissions, 1906 Henderson and Union coun- and try to persuade our members ty tobacco for us. Therefore we they are being robbed going and

he would handle the 1907 crop Now, gentlemen, these are for. He answered he would facts, and the same may be verihandle and prize the tabacco and fied from the records. Now. sell the same at \$2 per hogs- break up into little pools if you tion, to be, in devious ways plothead, and would guarantee the want to, and I think you will prizing and handling expenses have the pleasure of putting should not exceed \$1.50 per hun- your tobacco in the hogshead. dred, instead of \$1.85 we had and then the buyers will have been paying. By having one the pleasure of smitting you as man as manager and warehonse- they did the Stemming District man we could prorate sales among when it first started. Then all the members who had tobac- those gentlemen who can sell co in the pool, whereas money tobacco in ten minuets, if they for sales of the 1906 crop had to could only make a bond for be paid as factories were sold ten dollars, without the aid of to the identical farmers who had grafters or job-hunters, will find delivered to the factory sold. In it takes two to make a bar-

little pools and some members | Your Committee, in the face got their money months after of collossal diffuculties, has done other members. There was no the best it could. The Tobacco justice in the 1906 arrangement | Trust, the Dumpers, the Traitand members would not stand for ors in the manks, (thank God it long. So we made Mr. Elliot this infamous bunch are surmanager and warehouseman. prisingly few in number) and We paid him a big commission other enemies of the Association, for selling the 1907 pool, but he are, and have been from the rendered big services, for he not first plotting its destruction. only sold the 1906 crop free of Your Committee backed by the devoted and loyal members has Now, what took place when thus far thwarted the machinathe buyers saw we had placed tions of the enemies of the As-

sociation? Why they walked Any member has a perfect right up and bought the 1907, right to withdraw from this As-1908 and 1909 crops. True, we sociation and do what he pleases had to carry warehouse receipts with his future crops. But no for one-fourth the 1908 crop, but man has a right, while claiming

LOUISVILLE

Sebree Waiting für Result of A'a y is in the Research Labor story.

Sebree, Ky., April 23.-The post mortem examination over we paid Mr. Elliot \$2 per hogs- the body of Bob Wynne was ecutive Committee of the Stem- head for selling the 1907 crop, held, but the physicians are not ming District had the subject of when he also sold the 1906 crop giving out anything for publica-

> The stomach was sent to the Research Laboratory at Louisville for an analysis of the contents to see whether Wynne was poisoned.

The water in the jug has been examined, but no report has been received.

While it is still the general belief that Wynne was not poisoned, it will require the report from the water and from the stomach to settle the matter conclusively.

In the meantine Mrs Polly Smith is in jail at Dixon and Marion Wedding is being held at Sebree under guard.

The funeral of Wynne was held Saturday morning. He was buried at Olive Branch cemetery near Hanson. Rev. Witherspoon and Edwards conducted the ser-

It will be remembered that been poisoned by a man and joint work of the Committee and woman who came to him at Mr. Elliott. His work in Eng- night for water and after drain land was of inestimable contri- ing his jug, refilled it from which butory value to the efforts of after drinking, conmenced to the Committee in selling the cramp and in short time died. Wynne was engineer and night And with the Committee set- man at mines and it was feared non union men.

CARD OF THANKS.

We desire, through the colimns of the Record-Press to try to express our thanks to our cared for our beloved father and who so willingly assisted in all that was done to lighten our great burden. The shock of his having been stricken so suddenly was such a blow to us, that but for the great love and care for him by his friends and ours in preparation for the last sad tribute to his memory, it would have been many times harder for us to bear. Again, from the depths of our hearts, we thank everyone who in any way assisted us during this great loss of our only parent. His children.

ting the destruction of the Association.

ROCHESTER WALLINGFORD.

MRS. H. KOLTINSKY.

MRS. PERCY NOGGLE.

Just a little reference to those gentlemen who left their beautiful homes in the Sunny South, where the roses bloom the year round, where the mocking bird fills the air with melody, and journeyed to far-off Webster county in Kentucky for pure love of the poor down-trodden tobacco growers. There was no money, consideration in it for them. No, no, no-only pure

So much have I thought fit to recite, in advance of a detailed exhibit due from Secretary Thompson in the early future to the good members of this Association who have repeatedly honored me with their confidence. So much have I thought appropriate as a well-earned tribute to the honerable gentlemen who are associated with me on the Executive Committee. The Association has accomplished wonders, but only a tithe of what it could have achieved if only all the tobacco growers of the district had co-operated.

Very respectfully. I. N. BAKER, Chairman.